

ITON TZIYON עתון ציון

Mount Zion Temple Bulletin

June/July/August 2018 | Sivan/Tammuz/Av/Elul 5778 Vol. 162, No. 5

Oh what a May it was!









L'Dor VaDor

From Generation to Generation

Mazel Tov To...

Our members who will celebrate a milestone anniversary in June, July, August: Pete & Sue Stein, Ken & Rhonda Fox, Michael & Cindy Garr, Ira & Peggy Kipp, Stefan Plambeck & Sharon Arad, Henry & Amy Fink, David & Amy Moore, Phil & Judy Chansky, Curt & Adele Brown, Dan & Heidi Ries, Paul Sevett & Emily Zallen-Sevett, Michael & Elena Bond, Hilary Major & Pippa Major, David & Marissa Upin, Bernie & Deb Bachrach, Ron & Sandy Weislow, Jamie & Karen Forman, Sally Silk & Tom Wolfe, Dave & Laura Redish, Jeff Oberman & Kathy Conner, Bob & Julie Mast, Gary & Edith Pang, Sean & Marta Shore, Ya'akov & Anne Chittenden, Carl & Heather Luepker, Jon & Kay Strauss, Robert & Rose Krawetz, D. Marcos & Talia Vital, Andrew Koven & Andrea Prevost, Michael & Toby Meirovitz, Abbey Kanzer & Deirdre Kanzer, Jon & Ruth Garner, Eric & Vicki Spieler, Gary & Lael Gerding, Mischa & Barbara Penn.

Shel Finver and Dee Albert on the birth of their grandson, *Benyamin*, on April 7.

Heather and James Grams on the birth of their son, *Benny Mark*, on May 22.

Wayne and Maureen Sultan on the birth of their grandson, *Aiden*, on April 27.

Zichronam Livracha... May their memories be a blessing

We note with sorrow the passing of our member:

Betty Strem

Our condolences to her family.

We Extend Condolences to...

Joi Lewis (Joan Ostrove) on the death of her father, *James Lewis*, on May 7.

Chuck (Vicki) Long on the death of his father, *lim Long*, on May 17.

Philip and Nancy Margolis on the death of their daughter, *Cynthia Margolis*, on April 9.

Deb Moses on the death of her ex-husband, *Chuck McDew*, on April 3.

Ken and Rita Schenk on the death of their son, *David Webb*, on April 20.

Erica Stern on the death of her mother, *Claire Stern*, on March 27.

Kay (Jon) Strauss on the death of her father, William "Bill" Houle, on April 16.

May God grant peace to all who mourn and comfort to all who are bereaved.

Letter from the Rabbi



Often on this page we look ahead to all the exciting events filling these pages. Today I want to look back a bit. Not very far; just to the past month or so. May was so rich with the type of moments that highlight how exceptional our holy community is, how filled with Torah, Avodah, and Gemilut Chasadim, with Kedushah and Oneg.

We welcomed pulpit guests Rabbi David Stern, Artist-in-Residence Billy Jonas, and Rabbi Jeff Salkin (OK, he came in April, but at the very end of April) who challenged us intellectually, enriched us spiritually, and celebrated with us joyously.

We celebrated so many moments of life: On Shavuot we welcomed new babies with our First Fruits ritual, we shul-clapped for our pre-k and K students when they sang on Shabbat, On Yom Acharon we celebrated our second graders beginning Hebrew study, while our sixth graders displayed their hand made Tallitot and blessed the second graders. We had a Bar or Bat Mitzvah almost every Shabbat, and the 7th graders presented their amazing Mitzvah projects. Our Tenth graders impressed us with their deep commitment and confident leadership on Confirmation. At Senior Send off, Liza gave personalized messages and gifts to our Chai School graduates, and 10 adults became Anshei Mitzvah in a moving Shabbat service where they each chanted Torah and gave personal reflections, as well as leading the service before a full sanctuary. We honored our dedicated teachers on Yom Acharon, and celebrated afterwards with a picnic. We heard a concert of new Yiddish Music in memory of David Stock, and introduced by his daughter, Cantor Spilker.

We celebrated holidays: Mothers' (and fathers') day, Shavuot, Memorial Day, and of course Shabbat, including birthdays and anniversaries, Brotherhood Shabbat and Mensch of the year, and Hiddur Tefilah, our service which features visual images as well as words and music. We honored our beloved Youth Engagement Director, Liza, who is moving on to study social work and public health, our Volunteer of the Year Sue Koch for her leadership on the mosaic, and Cantor and Rabbi Spilker for their 20 years of dedicated service to Mount Zion. Brotherhood, Women of Mount Zion, and other constituencies celebrated another year of good work and fellowship with closing meetings. We honored our lay leadership at our Annual Meeting.

If April [snow] showers bring May flowers, May surely flowered for us. May was an amazing month, but the thing is, it merely telescoped all that is wonderful about Mount Zion Temple. All year long we "we celebrate, comfort, and create meaning in our lives while we seek justice in our world." (from our Temple vision). We are so blessed.

And we have much to look forward to. Come to Summer Services at 6 - for a more light hearted Kabbalat Shabbat worship, and see what else is in store inside this three month bulletin.

I wish everyone a wonderful, snow-free summer, and I look forward to seeing you!

Esther Adler, Rabbi

The 20th Annual Communal Observance of

Tisha B'Av

The day which commemorates the tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people.

Saturday, July 21 / 9 Av

at Mount Zion



9:45 pm Havdalah & Teaching by Rabbi Micah Miller, Temple of Aaron's new Assistant Rabbi

10:15 pm Maariv & Eicha (Lamentations) Reading and Songs
Sponsored by Beth Jacob Congregation, Mount Zion Temple, Temple of Aaron

Sunday Shacharit (morning) service at Beth Jacob at 8:30 am, 9:00 am at Temple of Aaron, 9:30 am at Mount Zion.

Summer Shabbat Service Times

Friday Shabbat Evening Services

June 8 - August 31 at 6:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. Kabbalat Panim – Greeting Time | 6:00 p.m. Hour-long Shabbat Service. | 7:00-7:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat.

Saturday Shabbat Morning Services

June 2, 10:00 a.m.

Beha'alotcha – Num. 9:15-10:34* Celebrate Shabbat!

June 9, 10:00 a.m. Shelach Lecha – Num. 14:8-15:7*

Lilian Gerber, Bat Mitzvah

June 16, 10:00 a.m.

Korach – Num. 16:20-17:24* Rachel Swenson, Bat Mitzvah

June 23, 10:00 a.m.

Chukkat – Num. 20:1-21:10* Rebecca Richman. Bat Mitzvah

June 30, 10:00 a.m.

Balak – Num. 22:39-23:26* Celebrate Shabbat!

July 7, 10:00 a.m.

Pinchas – Num. 26:52-28:15* Celebrate Shabbat!

July 14, 10:00 a.m.

Mattot/Masei – Num. 32:1-33:49* Celebrate Shabbat!

July 21, 10:00 a.m.

Devarim – Deut. 2:2-30* Shabbat Hazon Celebrate Shabbat!

July 28, 10:00 a.m.

Va'etchanan – Deut. 5:1-6:25* Shabbat Nachamu Celebrate Shabbat!

August 4, 10:00 a.m.

Ekev – Deut. 9:4-10-11* Naveen Alter, Bar Mitzvah

August 11, 10:00 a.m.

Reeh – Dec. 12:29-14:29* Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Nathaniel Dreyfaus, Bar Mitzvah

August 18, 10:00 a.m.

Shof'tim – Deut. 18:6-19:13* Sarah Parker, Bat Mitzvah

August 25, 10:00 a.m.

Ki Tetze – Deut. 23:8-24:13* Rebecca Elkin, Bat Mitzvah

Schedule Every Shabbat Day

9:00 a.m. Open Torah Study - Drop in any time to study the week's Torah portion (listed above). *Using a triennial [3 year] cycle, we are reading the second third of each parashah this year.

Camp Send-Off Shabbat Service Friday, June 1, 6:30 p.m.

All youth attending Jewish Summer Camps and Programs will be honored. Youth attending overnight programs will receive a special gift.







Daily Service Schedule

Daily services are held in the Harris Chapel, Monday through Thursday at 5:45 p.m., Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

June

Mondays: Gloria Livingston, Dorothy Lipschultz Tuesdays: John Mast, Siana Goodwin, Deb Bachrach Wednesdays: Eric Lund, Benjamin Elwood, Susie Steinbach Thursdays: Rita Grossman, Mitch Rubinstein, Sally Rubinstein Sundays: Rita Grossman, Janet Kampf

luly

Mondays: Lindsay Nauen, Shirley Kulevsky

Tuesdays: John Mast, Heidi Waldmann, Jim Waldmann

Wednesdays: Eric Lund, Sue Lund, Eric Lund

Thursdays: Rita Grossman, Phil Goldman, Raline Paper **Sundays:** Rita Grossman, John Mast, Janet Kampf

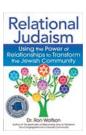
If you would like to participate in Leading or Greeting at daily

services, contact Janet 651-482-9951.

Pulpit Guest Ron Wolfson Friday, July 13, 6:00 pm

Ron Wolfson is the author of Relational Judaism: Using the Power of Relationships to Transform the Jewish Community. He will speak at Mount Zion after the 6 pm services during Shabbat Dinner.

The Reform Movement's Men of Reform Judaism will be having their annual conference in the Twin Cities in July. They invite Mount Zion congregants to Shabbat Dinner which will be at Mount Zion on Friday, July 13, 7:00 p.m. To register for Shabbat dinner, go to tinyurl.com/mrj-conference. Choose "Tickets" and one of the options is Shabbat Dinner. Their cost is \$40/per person. Please contact Rabbi Spilker if financial assistance is needed.



Come Celebrate Mount Zion's Tzedek (Justice) Volunteers at Shabbat Services

Friday, August 10, 6:00 pm

This special Shabbat will honor and recognize the social justice efforts that you make happen across our congregation. If you have participated in any social justice work through Project HOME/June Shelter,

Women of Mount Zion Temple, Brotherhood, the Tzedek Committee, youth group, the Religious School, we want to celebrate your important work and reflect together about what else we can do to bring about *tikkun olam* (repair of the world).



Musical Morocco



In March, 16 members of Mount Zion took the trip of a lifetime to Morocco. There we learned about history, art, architecture, people, and the Jewish community, among so many other things. One of the biggest highlights was the music we were fortunate to experience. I say "experience" because we did not

just listen — we sang, clapped, and danced along with our guide, drummer/singer Dror Sinai, and the other musicians we met.

Evening programs with tribal bands were electrifying with their pulsing rhythms and unique instruments. The band members' enthusiasm was infectious, and many a night we were swinging, hooting, and conga-lining along with these friendly musicians.

One Saturday night in Casablanca, we had a different sort of musical evening in the beautiful, bohemian home of Sephardic singer, Vanessa Paloma.

Vanessa was so gracious to host us, particularly because she was off to Paris the next day to defend her PhD thesis!

Vanessa, originally from Colombia, has done extensive research on and performs Sephardic and Moroccan Jewish music. After taking in a magical, panoramic view of Casablanca from Vanessa's rooftop patio, we joined together for a Sephardic Havdalah service followed by a "learning concert." Vanessa was accompanied



by Dror on the drums and an oud (Middle Eastern lute) player.

Vanessa focused mostly on *Romanzas*, a popular genre of Sephardic and Judeo-Arabic songs. Some of these songs were in *Ladino*, Judeo-Spanish, while others were in *Haketia*, a mixture of Medieval Spanish and an Arabic dialect called *Derja*. While the songs' melodies are often quite interesting in and of themselves, they focus primarily on the text. They are epic tales used in daily life as well as for celebrations, and many include Biblical references and texts. As Vanessa explained, the songs are vehicles for passing on information and moral lessons, which explains why they have lasted for over 500 years.

We all sang Rahel Lastimosa, a wedding song in Haketia with an exuberant refrain/response ("A wai a wai!"), with Vanessa. If you search for Rahel Lastimosa on YouTube, Vanessa Paloma's is one of the first listed. You can click on the video that pops up, and to hear more, check out the ones that appear to the right of it under "Mix — Vanessa Paloma."

Enioy!

Rachel Stock Spilker, Cantor

Mount Zion Sing-Along with Dan Chouinard

Pianist-accordionist-host-writer-producer and-master-sing-along leader!

Saturday, July 28

7:00 p.m. Social Time & Nosh | 7:30 p.m. Sing-Along



For three decades Dan Chouinard has been pianist and accordionist of choice for a who's who of Twin Cities performers, an enabler of community sing-alongs, and writer and host of hit shows for radio, concert hall and theatrical stage. He's appeared all across the upper Midwest and turned up often on A Prairie Home Companion. Please join us for a special Mount Zion community Sing-Along in Margolis Hall.

Co-sponsored by Brotherhood, Prime Timers, and Women of Mount Zion Temple.

Tot Shabbat

Tot Shabbat is the second Saturday of every month. For families with children from birth to seven years old.

Keif Tachat HaShemesh! (Fun under the Sun!)
Saturdays, June 9, July 14, and August 11, 10:30 a.m.

Please bring a healthy, nut-free vegetarian dish to share.

Trope Troupe ... the more Torah, the more life. -Hillel

Todah Rabah to our AprillMay Ba'alei Korei (chanting Torah): Isaac Berlin, Seth Berlin, Hana Bibliowicz, Ya'akov Chittenden, Suzy Frisch, Harriet Gutherz, Jillian Holiday, Elena Isaksonas, David Knapp, Michael Kuhne, Brita Kukich, Steve Levin. Laura Mathews, Yasmine Moideen, Deb Moses, Shelley Robbins, Marilyn Salmon, Brian Serle, Jill Spanier

Todah Rabah to our April/May Haftarah Chanters: Elena Isaksonas, Alex Klass, Yasmine Moideen, Brian Serle

To sign up to chant Torah or Haftarah on Shabbat, e-mail Cantor Jennifer Strauss-Klein at jstraussklein@mzion.org.

From the President

This President's Column is an edited version of the President's Message at the May 11, 2018 Annual Meeting:



In preparing my message, I wavered between reviewing the lengthy list of highlights from the past year and delivering an overarching message capturing my thoughts about the temple at this moment in time. A list means I am bound to leave out someone or something particularly close to someone's heart; but it is fun and informative, and in our case, pretty impressive.

As is often the case, Rabbi Spilker guided me to a conclusion. He devised a lively, interactive way to capture and convey our many highlights. And, there is always the Annual Report which contains a comprehensive year in review in its opening letter. So I will leave the highlights to others.

Instead, I am going ask all of you to settle in, relax your shoulders. We're going to take a few minutes to fully honor what we do for each other day in day out. This is an ode to the ordinary.

We conduct a daily service every single day.

We break bread with each other every week.

We educate our children in a religion, in a language, in a musical tradition.

We study Torah together week in week out, year in, year out.

We celebrate holidays many of which Jews have celebrated for thousands of years.

We mark life's passages with rich ceremony: a bris, a naming, B'nei mitz-vah, confirmations, weddings, and anniversaries.

We bury our dead with dignity and reverence and care for the grieving. And, as commanded from Sinai, we keep Shabbat.

And we do it. Not our ancestors, (with respect) not our clergy, not the URJ. And we have been doing it for over 160 years and as best I can tell, we plan to continue ... indefinitely.

We will hear the hit parade of this year's yearly highlights. And we will justifiably be proud. But all our other accomplishments stem from our commitment to these ordinary mitzvot. And all of our accomplishments, dare I say, pale in comparison to the grandeur and audacity of our daily rededication to these holy and defining acts of our Jewish identity.

We keep intact traditions that will not survive our letting go. Bravo to us.

Susan Robiner, President

Life and Legacy

Two years ago, the Grinspoon Foundation (of PJ Library fame) offered an incentive to Jewish communities around the country. Called the Life and Legacy program, Mount Zion is working alongside Jewish congregations and Jewish organizations throughout the Twin Cities. The program gives our members the opportunity to leave a legacy to their favorite organizations. In our first year, 18 of our members completed a Letter of Intent (LOI), and Mount Zion earned a \$5,000 award from the Foundation. **Mount Zion now needs another 18 of our**



members to complete a simple Letter of Intent form, so we can earn another \$5,000 or more. Be part of Mount Zion's future, as you include us in your estate planning. The Letter of Intent is a quick, easy form to complete. We will be happy to send you a form. If you have questions, please call Larry Solomon at the Mount Zion office. Now, please read the story below of one Legacy, completed by our members Renae and Phil Goldman.

Finally! We've left a legacy.

After 35 years at Mount Zion, including stints as President, Volunteer of the Year, and most recently, Mensch of the Year (and that's just on one side of the household) – roles that often involved cajoling others to leave a legacy - the Goldmans have finally left one of their own.

And guess what? It was easier than we had ever imagined. Even with the input of financial advisors and lawyers over the years - and having will and estate matters that are fairly routine – the thought of saving a place for Mount Zion in our estate plans just seemed too complex, and too unpredictable, and too inflexible, for us to deal with at the time. We had enough to do just being sure that both of us, and the growing kids, would be taken care of. Dayenu, we thought.

Instead, we chose to support Mount Zion through annual campaigns and various other ways. Providing for the temple through the vehicle of our estate was always something we would attend to, someday.

Well as it turns out, that day has arrived, and for us, it was far easier than we thought. In our case, it doesn't involve the need to change any legal documents. Instead, with the stroke of a pen, and some sage counsel, we have simply included Mount Zion as a beneficiary on an IRA and insurance policy that we

have. Not to the exclusion of our traditional beneficiaries, but simply along side them, using whatever calculation (e.g., flat amounts or percentages) make most sense.

The result is self effectuating, requires no further effort, and will be easily revocable if, for some reason, we decided to do so. Clearly, there are many more ways in which we can all consider when creating our legacy, but the path we have taken seems to be a good foot in the door. And best of all, it is more than enough for us to commit to having finally left a legacy of our own to Mount Zion.

Still, you should seek the advice of your financial and/or legal counsel before taking these or other steps. To ensure that your potential asset (e.g., IRA or insurance) will pass correctly, various forms designating your beneficiaries will need to be filled out. Your counselor should be able to ensure that these forms are proper, both in their own right, and in view of your overall estate. Besides, as they will likely tell you, it is good practice to review beneficiaries on a regular basis.

A guest speaker, Rabbi Leder, recently mentioned that we need to start seeing ourselves as the ancestors of our children and future generations.

Ancestors do things like this. Apparently, so do mensches. And it's never too late.

Mount Zion Temple Board of Directors

As we find many ways to strengthen connections at Mount Zion, this column is a way to get to know members of Mount Zion's Board of Directors. We are grateful for all who serve in leadership and volunteer their talents for our community. We are blessed that Batya Spector volunteered to write these vignettes.

Jason Kaufman



This spring Jason ends his first year as both a member of Mount Zion Temple's Board of Directors and Chair of our congregation's Religious School Committee. In both venues Jason has the opportunity to collaborate with others toward ensuring we have vibrant, engaging, ongoing Jewish learning. It was the Religious School's "reputation in program-

ming" that drew Jason, Amy his wife, and daughters Dina and Mira here around 2013. The family has "put down roots" at Mount Zion Temple. Both girls dove into Tot Shabbat programs; their favorite part was the "Shabbatsaurus" puppet. They and other Tot Shabbat families from those years are now a strong cohort; they will celebrate with each other next year as their children are called to the Torah as B'nei Mitzvah. When asked to serve on the Board of Directors, Jason explained that he assumed "there had been a lapse of judgment...it's difficult to say no to serve in such a good place." He reflected that Mount Zion Temple has become "our family's home in the Jewish community"; he believes the congregation's commitment to "Torah, Avodah, and Gemilut Chasadim is real, we walk the talk and are truly inclusive." Jason appreciates the positive work of Religious School Committee members who have set the 2018-2019 curricular topics: more attention to the Chai School, Middle East (Politics in Israel), and approaches to anti-Semitism. Amy is a teacher of the deaf / hard of hearing and blind / visually impaired in District 917. Jason teaches at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Peggy Kipp



Peggy joined Mount Zion Temple in 1983 when Rabbi Leigh Lerner married she and Ira. Peggy found Sisterhood (The Women of Mount Zion) as the place where she could best use her strong administrative skills. She likes to 'get things done' and 'solve problems' while building leadership skills and deepening friendships. For Peggy, Mount Zion Tem-

ple congregational community is enhanced by Women of Mount Zion Temple because the group ensures members feel like they belong and it bring out their best individual qualities. Starting as a Membership Secretary, Peggy eventually became Co-President of the Mount Zion Temple Sisterhood from 2009-2011 and in that role served for the first time on the congregation's Board of Directors. She rejoined this Board in 2017. She "likes to know what's going one in the congregation, asking questions, enjoys learning where the Temple is going, and what roles it is taking in the community" and she "feels it is an honor to serve". Peggy also served on the boards of the Jewish Federation of Greater St. Paul and the National Council of Jewish Women. Peggy and Ira regularly attend Shabbat morning Torah study. They have two adult sons; Jason (31) lives and works in Israel and Scott (29) lives in St. Paul and works with his father. Peggy works in a State of Minnesota call center. She has "had a camera since high school" and on her own and Mount Zion Temple's Facebook pages we see photographic expressions of her love of animals, plants landscapes and places she travels.

Anne Starr



Anne Starr brings her joy of growing up in a strong, culturally memorable New York Jewish community to Mount Zion Temple's *Bima* when she speaks with *B'nei Mitzvah* in her role representing the Board of Directors or Women of Mount Zion and Brotherhood giving words of celebration as well as the gifts of *B'nei Mitzvah* certificates or High

Holy Days machzorim (prayer books). We hear Anne's love for her upbringing in her enthusiastic language of congratulations, her vocal inflections of both accent and Yiddish and words of appreciation of family. She says she enjoys making these presentations to keep alive this indelible background. Anne joined Mount Zion Temple in 2006 after moving here from New York state to be close to her three daughters, a son, their spouses and five grandchildren; she said the congregation 'is far superior' to others she has known. Now, Anne spends time with grandchildren's activities and serves many hours on the Minnesota Democratic Party's Central Committee. Along with joining our congregation's Board of Directors in 2017, she is a member of the Accessibility and Inclusion Committee, the Israel Committee, and Women of Mount Zion. Anne also regularly attends Friday night services - sometimes serving as Shamash - as well as participates in monthly Prime Timers events. She joined fellow congregants at the Fall 2017 URJ Biennial in Boston and was among the hearty congregation group that spent 12 days in Israel summer of 2017. Anne's worked as an operating room nurse until a disabling accident brought about her retirement. She lives in Eagan, Minnesota.

Volunteers Needed!Mount Zion Garage Sale

Run by the Women of Mount Zion Temple.

Contact Penny Druker at pdruker@comcast.net to volunteer or with questions. All Garage Sale Volunteers will receive a FREE t-shirt and many meals/picnics!

See p. 9 for more details about the Garage Sale.



Mount Zion Community Summer Picnic Sunday, August 12, 10 am - 2 pm

at Indian Mounds Regional Park (10 Mounds Blvd., Saint Paul) Sponsored by Women of Mount Zion, Brotherhood, Prime Timers

Food and beverages are free! The park features a picnic area, play area, BBQ grills, hiking and biking trails, public art, and more. There is a fully accessible restroom. For other concerns or questions about accessibility, please contact Brian Serle 612-251-5045 or bkserle@yahoo.com.





Hey Mount Zion! Are you feeling PROUD?

This is our 14th year parading with **IPride at Pride!** Sunday, June 24

Join us! Everyone welcome!

Please join Rabbi Spilker, Cantor Strauss-Klein, and our Mount Zion community as we march down Hennepin Ave.

Haven't missed a year? That's Fabulous! Never been to Pride before? This is your year! Wear a J-Pride shirt, a Jewish youth group shirt, or a J-Pride Sticker and walk, dance the "Hora on Hennepin," and celebrate together! As always, EVERYONE is welcome! Friends, Partners, Parents, Spouses, Teens, All Ages of Adults, Kids with an Adult! Questions? Contact Heather Renetzky at J-Pride, HRenetzky@jfcsmpls.org.

We are saving a spot for you!



MaZAL



Library Happenings

By purchase, or gifts, the library's holdings are expanding. Some recently acquired titles include Philip Kerr's Greeks Bearing Gifts: a Bernie Gunther novel; Michael David Lukas's The Last Watchman of Old Cairo; Nova Jacob's The Last Equation of Isaac Severy: a novel in clues; Peter Morfoot's Impure Blood; Dara Horn's Eternal Life; David Fohrman's The Queen You Thought You Knew: Unmasking Esther's Hidden Story; Debra Spark's Good for the Jews: a novel; Deborah Reber's Differently Wired: Raising an Exceptional Child in a Conventional World; Gloria Koster's Little Red Ruthie: a Hanukkah Tale; Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia; Dennis Prager's Exodus, God, Slavery, and Freedom (Rational Bible series); Michael Brenner's In Search of Israel; and many more. Thank you to our donors!

The Library Committee is gearing up for the 90th anniversary of the library in May 2019. We will be having coffee and pastries, inviting local authors and former employees, having a display of selected titles from the original library which have survived the rigors of time, and an amnesty: if you have a long overdue book that you're feeling guilty about, you can return it, no questions asked! (But why wait? Avoid the rush! Return them now!) If you'd like to make a suggestion for helping us celebrate, and we can accommodate it – please let us know.

This summer I will be spending some of my time updating and expanding the Librarian's Handbook.

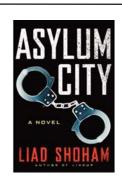
As always – if you have some copies of Hadassah Magazine or Jewishthemed DVDs, the librarian will be happy to accept them to add to the collection.

Bob Epstein, Librarian

Israel Book Discussions

Asylum City by Liad Shoham Monday, July 2,7:00 p.m. at Mount Zion

Join us for an engaging conversation about Israeli life through its literature. Even if you cannot read the book in advance, you are welcome. Questions? Contact Jonathan at jkeisenthal@comcast.net.



Religious School News



It takes a village to raise a child, to pass down Jewish traditions and values L'Dor V'Dor, from generation to generation. Mount Zion Temple has been incredibly fortunate to have an exceptionally knowledgeable, creative and enthusiastic faculty and KULAM inclusion advocates, a skilled core of dedicated Madrichim, an active School Committee and commit-

ted youth engagement program directed by Liza Henry. Thank you all for another extraordinary year here at Mount Zion. Serving as your Religious School Director has been a privilege and an honor. Those of you who were at our Yom Acharon closing service saw just how many teachers, advocates, madrichim, support staff and volunteers are involved in providing formal and informal educational opportunities to our students and their families. All told, Liza and I invited 118 individuals up to the bima to be recognized for their roles in passing our Jewish traditions L'dor v'dor (from generation to generation). It certainly does take a village to raise a child!

Mark Your Calendars Now!

See this page for information about the 2018-19 opening day programs and visit our Religious School and Chai School website pages for the full 2018-19 school calendars. While you are certainly free to move about the country over the summer, please do visit from time to time and remember to return in the fall for new and improved experiential education opportunities.

Please remember to write to us over the summer!

We would love to receive dozens of postcards from all our students, PreK-12 and beyond! It gets lonely here during the summer months.

Sue Summit

1300 Summit Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55105

May you be blessed as you go on your way,

Sue Summit, Religious School Director

Register for Religious School Today!

2018-2019 Religious School Registration Online: Please register online for the upcoming school year! If you have any questions about

the registration process, please contact Jen Baddin, Administrative Coordinator at jbaddin@mzion.org.

Lower School

Sunday, September 16

Yom Rishon—First Sunday of Religious School

Wednesday, September 26

First Night of Hebrew School

Chai School

Wednesday, September 26

First Night of Chai School 7-10th Grade meet 6:00-7:15 p.m. 11-12th Grade meet 7:30-8:30 p.m.













Youth Engagement News



Standing at the edge of the Promised Land, Moses spoke to the Israelite people with wisdom knowing he would not enter the land he'd lead the people to for so long. While leaving them at this point is hard, he knows he has not lead the Israelite people alone and that they are in good hands. Moses had many partners on this journey lifting him up, balancing his

strengths and weaknesses, and offering guidance along the way. In the past 10 years at Mount Zion, I have had many partners in this holy work. Some of those partners were mentors and guides, while others are youth leaders who I had the honor of mentoring myself.

As I stood on the bima last Friday, I was surrounded by a community of partners who will continue toward the Promised Land with strength while I move into my step. Judaism is rooted in honoring the holiness of transition. We bless transition each week, month, and year as time goes by. We bless life transitions as we become b'nei mitzvah, get married, or begin a journey. The Shechechyanu is in many ways a blessing of transition, honoring all that it took to reach a moment.

Blessed are you who has given us life. I have spent my entire adult life at Mount Zion. I came here at 19 years old, having grown in up a congregation of over 1200 households. Mount Zion was a breath of fresh air, where youth are celebrated, learning is lifelong, and building community is ongoing. I was and still am inspired by this kehillah kedosha (holy community.)

Blessed are you who sustains us. In times of challenge, we find comfort in returning to the known. Throughout these I0 years, Mount Zion has been a place where I have returned to in times of both challenge and celebration. This support has given me strength and filled my heart with love.

Blessed are you who has helped us reach this season. This transition is bittersweet. My experiences at Mount Zion have prepared me to enter this next step, and yet they also make leaving this role so hard. The relationship I have developed with each individual in this community is sacred, and I will carry this community with me wherever I go.

So as you each continue on your way to your Promised Land, it is here that I must say thank you for giving me life, sustaining me, and helping me reach this season. And as our individual journeys continue, I know our paths will cross again, because Mount Zion will forever be a home and a family to which I will return.

Liza Henry, Youth Engagement Director



NFTY-Northern Summer Kallah August 17-19, Twin Cities NFTY-NO Kickoff for 6-12th Grade August 18

Women of Mount Zion Temple

2018 Mount Zion



Get Ready: the Women of Mount Zion Temple and our amazing volunteers are gearing up! Start cleaning out your closets, and, as always – prepare to shop! Please contact Penny Druker with questions! pdruker@comcast.net. All Garage Sale Volunteers will receive a FREE t-shirt and many meals/picnics!

Please start saving your gently used items. As with previous years we cannot accept large appliances, televisions, VHS, CD and DVD players, computers, monitors, printers, typewriters, mattresses, grills, carpet, large exercise equipment (treadmills, exercise bikes, etc.) bike helmets, used lawn mowers and other kinds of tools that require gasoline to operate, tires, magazines, encyclopedias, strollers, cribs or car seats.

Donation Days:

July 15-19 and 22-25: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m July 20: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m

Sale Dates:

Opening Night - July 26, 6 - 9:30 p.m (\$5 entry fee)

July 27, August 3 & 5, 12:00-4:00 pm

July 29, Noon - 6pm

August I & 2, 6 & 7, 4-8 pm

August 8, 12:00-4:00 pm Half Priced day

August 9, 12:00-4:00 pm Bag Day

Mount Zion Sisterhood Offices for 2018-2019

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Co-President Peggy Kipp
Treasurer Terri Stander

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VP Membership Ruth Abrahamson

VP Events & Programming Sheri Frisque
VP Social Action Ruth Garner

VP Publicity Liz Stein

VP Finance -

Corresponding Secretary Denise Jacobus

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Membership Secretary Margie Abrahamson

Auditor Jennifer Schneider

Advisor Edith Pang

THANK YOU...FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

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Adam & Rachel Stock Spilker's 20 years of dedicated service

Rita Grossman In memory of:

Howard Linsk

Karen Linsk

Joseph Mast

Diane Mast

John Mast

Robert Mast Susan Winthrop

Harold Ravits

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Sylvia Selter

Adele Gottfried Betty Strem

Eleanor Meade

Harvey Winthrop Susan Winthrop

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Ray & Rosemary Sevett

Donations: Anonymous **Edith Smith**

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In honor of the special anniversary

lim & Sally Beloff

Patti Engler In memory of:

Howard Fischbein

Stuart Applebaum

loseph Mast

Stuart Applebaum In yahrzeit memory of:

Rose Beloff

The Beloff Family Winifred Goldbarg

> Stuart Applebaum The Beloff Family

BENTSON FAMILY RABBINIC CHAIR FUND

In yahrzeit memory of: Milton Applebaum Daniel & Susan Levey

BLOOM LIBRARY FUND

In yahrzeit memory of: Jerry Levey

Steve & Susan Levey

BROTHERHOOD FUND

In honor of the Mensch of the year:

Phil Goldman

Mary Ann & David Wark

In yahrzeit memory of: Frank Schwarz Walter Schwarz

CARING COMMUNITY **FUND**

In honor of your volunteer service: ludi Marshall

Charles & Vicki Fodor Lois Moheban

Mitchell Wittenberg & Jaine

Strauss

In honor of the special anniversary of:

Charles & Vicki Fodor

Rhoda & Don Mains

In honor of the Anshei Mitzvah of: Ya'akov Chittenden

lillian Holiday

Jill Spanier

Lois Moheban Yasmine Moideen

Avram & Shellina Scheiner

In yahrzeit memory of: Marian Spector

Batya Spector

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In yahrzeit memory of: Richard B. Baer

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DeeDee Harris

In memory of:

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DeeDee Harris Iosebh Mast

DeeDee Harris

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Wishing a speedy recovery to: Arthur Stone

Gloria Johnson

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In honor of achieving Eagle Scout: Eli Lehn

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lillian Holiday

Elena Izaksonas Michael Kuhne

Brita Kukich

Yasmine Moideen

Deborah Moses

Marilyn Salmon lill Sbanier

Devora Molitor

Ya'akov Chittenden

Rita Grossman In honor of the Mensch of the

year.

Phil Goldman Connie & Paul Ross

In appreciation of: The Mental Health Task Force of Accessibility/Inclusion Work Group

Batya Spector In honor of the confirmation of

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Sarah Abrahamson Hannah Banwell

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Sophia Flaminio

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Please Invite Your Friends and Acquaintances to

Meet Mount Zion!

An Open House and Brunch for Unaffiliated Jews in Our Community

Sunday, September 16, 10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Mount Zion's annual Open Houses have been extremely successful in introducing our Temple to those seeking a welcoming and vibrant spiritual home. Please invite those you know who are unaffiliated

- Discover 160+ years of Mount Zion's rich history.
- Learn about Mount Zion's dedication to worship, learning, & social justice.
- Meet our clergy, lay leaders, and Temple members.
- Tour our building and religious school.
- Get a taste of our various organizations and activities.

Attendees can RSVP at mzion.org or contact the Temple with questions at 651-698-3881.

Complimentary High Holy Days tickets will be given to Open House guests in advance by RSVPing.



Thank you to all the generous supporters of the L'Chaim 5778 Annual Campaign in honor of Cantor and Rabbi Spilker's 20 years of leadership.

Anonymous * Bonnie and Al Abrahamson * Ruth and Steve Abrahamson * Sandy and Ed Abramson * Rabbi Esther Adler and Rob Lebowitz * Patricia and Jonathan Akers * Debrah Albert and Shel Finver (in memory of Leon Finver) * Miriam Amster * Stuart Applebaum * Sharon Arad and Stefan Plambeck * Judy and Harvey Arbit * Deb and Bernard Bachrach * Jennifer and Paul Bagdade * Adam Bahr * Myra Barrett and Harry Brull * Janis Batt * Lois and Walter Baum * Kristin Beckmann and Robert Richman * Sally and Jimmy Beloff * Susan Benfield * Barbara Bentson, z"I * Alyssa and Doug Berg * Cantor Julie and Rabbi Alan Berlin * Justina Bernstein and Logan Murphy * Carolyn Borow Moore and Bradley Moore * Gail and Steve Brand * Rolla Breitman * Judith and Arnold Brier * Alison Brueggemann and Adam Garen * Charles and Karmit Bulman * Joni and Bill Burg * Kate Cavett * Stephanie and Michael Chauss * Susanne and Warren Cohen * Kathy Conner and Jeffrey Oberman *The Cooper Family * Nancy Crotti and Rick Linsk * Barbara and Howard Cutts *The D'Aquila Family * Marjorie Dana-Levine and Charles Levine * Julie Dean and Scott Deetz * Diana Dean and David Lipset * Jennifer and Joel Denenholz and Family * Connie Dickson, Stephan and Aidan Weingarten * Lisa and Paul Dorn * Jill and Todd Dreyfus * Janet Dubinsky and Howard Mironov * Emily Duke and Daniel Sogin * Randy and Tom Edelstein * Kathleen and Jonathan Eisenthal * Sarah and Brad Elkin * Betty and Ron Ellis * Betsy and Ian Ellis * Carol and David Epstein * Chris and Harvey Epstein * Betty and Herb Fantle * Erwin Farkas * Carla Feldhamer * Judith Feldman * Amy and Henry Fink * The Flaminio Family * Jackie and Ted Flaum * Nancy Flynn * Vicky and Charles Fodor * Jean and Michael Folger * Laura Ford-Nathan and David Nathan *Thyra Fossum and Adam Wernick * Bill Fox *Virginia Ruth Fram * Sheyna and Tony Galyan * Ruth and Jon Garner * Cynthia and Michael Garr * Eunice Gelb * Gail Gendler and Roger Bjork * Lael and Gary Gerding * Cristiana Giordano and David Kristal * Karen Gjerstad and Kent Simon * Rozanne Glass * Sally Glick * Mark Goldberg * Renae and Phil Goldman * Heidi Goldstein, Rich Sheinfeld, and Sydney Sheinfeld * Mavis and Shane Goldstein * Adele Gottfried * Susan and Jeff Gottlieb * Deidre Greene and Morley Friedman * Donald Greenebaum * Lija and Andrew Greenseid * Stephanie and Steven Greenstein * Jessica and Brent Griffith * Rita Grossman * Susan Grupe * Jeremy Hein & Sanjkta Chaudhuri (in memory of Siegfried Hein) * Liza and Patrick Henry * James and Lisa Heyman * Judy and Jerry Hoffman * Laurie and Jeff Hunt * Elena Izaksonas and Woody Smith * Larry and Emma Jacobs * Amy Johnson * Lois Johnson (in memory of Mitchell Johnson) * Raleigh and Hart Johnson * Janet Kampf * Kathy and Harold Katz * Amy and Jason Kaufman * Jane Stein Kerr and Euan Kerr * Jean King Appelbaum and Stuart Appelbaum * Joan and Jason Kinsley * Peggy and Ira Kipp * Ruth and Steve Kirsch * Janie and Orrin Kirschbaum * Yelizaveta Kladnitskaya and Rafail Lev * Alexandra B. 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A record 279 Households participated in this year's Annual Campaign. Todah Rabah!

All Men at MZ: You can join a National Men's Conference here in the Twin Cities!

Men of Reform Judaism Today: Past the Curb, Beyond the Parking Lot July 12-15

at the Renaissance Minneapolis Hotel, The Depot (225 3rd Avenue South, Minneapolis)

More information and to register: menrj.org

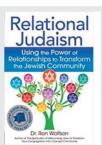
Speakers include Dr. Ron Wolfson, author of "Relational Judaism"; Dr. Steven Windmueller, Dean of the Los Angeles Campus of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, an expert on Jewish Politics; Mr. Moran Birman, Consul for Public Diplomacy, Consulate of Israel, Midwest; Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker, URJ Religious Action Center Brit Olam Chair; Allison Rosenfeld, Assistant Regional Director ADL, Chicago; and Benjie Kaplan, Executive Director, U. of Minnesota Hillel. Special remarks by Mayor Jacob Frey of Minneapolis.

Pulpit Guest Ron Wolfson

Friday, July 13, 6:00 pm at Mount Zion Temple

Ron Wolfson is the author of Relational Judaism: Using the Power of Relationships to Transform the Jewish Community. He will speak at Mount Zion after the 6 pm services during Shabbat Dinner.

The Reform Movement's Men of Reform Judaism will be having their annual conference in the Twin Cities in July. They invite Mount Zion congregants to Shabbat Dinner which will be at Mount Zion on Friday, July 13, 7:00 p.m. To register for Shabbat dinner, go to tinyurl.com/mrj-conference. Choose "Tickets" and one of the options is Shabbat Dinner. Their cost is \$40/per person. Please contact Rabbi Spilker if financial assistance is needed.



Brotherhood

Greetings from Mount Zion Brotherhood!

Brotherhood Shabbat Recap – April 27 – Rabbi Jeff Salkin did a terrific job as our scholar-in-residence for the whole weekend. The Brotherhood Choir got lots of kudos for their leadership at services Friday evening, and we were proud to present Phil Goldman with our annual Mensch of the Year award.

Grand Old Day – Sunday, June 3 – Please take a shift at our parking lot for our major fundraiser – parking for the Grand Old Day celebration. E-mail or call Brian (contact info below) if you can serve for an hour or two.

Mount Zion Summer Picnic, August 12, 10:00 a.m. Sponsored by Brotherhood, Prime Timers and Women of Mount Zion Temple. See p. 7 for details.

Watch your mailbox for our membership mailing. Your contribution to Brotherhood goes a long way to support many Mount Zion programs.

Have a wonderful summer!

B'Shalom

Brian Serle, Brotherhood President bkserle@yahoo.com / 612-251-5045

7th Annual Jewish Men's Retreat

Friday, June 8 - Sunday, June 10

Join the men of Mount Zion for a weekend of fun, camaraderie, spirituality, and enjoying the great outdoors!



Here are just some of the plans and activities that are available:

- Activity options include: Swimming, hiking, fishing, boating (rowboat, canoes and kayak), ropes course with a zip line!
- Yoga!
- · Or cards, games, schmoozing!
- Shabbat services with creative participation, contemplative music, and Torah study.
- Rabbi Spilker will provide insight about the movie "A Serious Man." After watching it, we'll discuss how the themes intersect with our own lives and how we handle tough times (fair or unfair) and the consequences of our choices.



- · Optional group Friday and Shabbat afternoon bike rides
- · Optional Audubon program on Owls
- · Relaxation!

Register: mzion.nirsham.com/form/jewish-mens-retreat.

Prime Timers

Members 55 and older

WORD is continuing every other Monday in the Sisterhood Lounge from 1:30-2:30 pm. Come play our version of Password on June 4, 18, July 2, 16, August 6, 20.

Ageless Grace® with Pola Rest (seminars + exercise sessions)

Mondays at 1:30 pm: June 11, July 9, August 13

Come join us for a 15 minute talk on the brain (or body), pus 40 minutes of Ageless Grace chair exercise. Ageless Grace - 21 Tools for Lifelong Comfort and Ease - is done seated and to music, and is based on movements which are natural and come with ease. Designed for all ages and abilities, these exercises are especially good for people 55+. No equipment is necessary; come as you are and be prepared to have fun. We look forward to seeing you there!

Are you Interested in Learning the Basics of Mah Jongg?

Thursday, June 7, 11:30 am-1:00 pm.

Beginners and experienced players welcome! Join us for a fun filled afternoon as we learn the basics of the popular game of Mah Jongg. We will enjoy a potluck of desserts and snacks. RSVP to Jill Spanier at js020907@gmail.com.

Minnesota Sinfonia Classical Concert

Wednesday, June 20 at Como Park Pavilion, St. Paul

We will meet at 5:30~pm for a potluck dinner. The concert will follow at 7:00~pm.

Minnesota Pops Orchestra Water, Water, Everywhere

Sunday, July 15 at Lake Harriet Bandshell in Minneapolis

The concert will feature music from Showboat, Dances at Swan Lake, Victory at Sea, Blue Danube and Pirates of the Caribbean. We will meet at 4:30pm for a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to share. The concert will follow at 5:30 pm.

An Evening with The Rabbi

August (date to be determined)

Mount Zion Community Picnic

Sunday, August 12, 10 am - 2 pm

Food and beverages are FREE Sponsored by Women of Mount Zion, Brotherhood, Prime Timers See p 7 for details.

If you are interested in learning more about the Prime Timers, please contact a Jill Spanier at 651-493-1959 or js020907@gmail.com

Mount Zion Hosts Two Exhibits this Summer!

Jewish Life in Canada

The exhibit will be on display in June

For nearly 250 years, the Jewish community has made important contributions to life in Canada, from human rights and architecture to government and the arts. This valuable legacy is explored in a new, multi-panel exhibition, supported by an extensive website: cje2017.com. The exhibition, prepared by volunteers and funded by private donations, has been displayed at the Canadian National Capitol Commission, at the Canadian War Museum, and in 17 cities across Canada, and is now making its way to the United States. Mount Zion is proud to be the first Minnesota host.

South African Suzman Exhibit

The exhibit will be on display in July

Mount Zion Temple is pleased to partner with the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas (JCRC) to bring an exhibit about the life and work of Jewish anti-apartheid activist Helen Suzman to the synagogue this July. The exhibit was developed by the Isaac and Jessie Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies and Research at the University of Cape Town and is housed at the International Civil Rights Center & Museum in Greensboro, NC.

The exhibit tells the story of Helen Suzman, one of South Africa's most vociferous and energetic opponents of apartheid. She takes pride of place among those activists who devoted their lives to fight for human rights and the rule of law in South Africa. From the start of a political career that spanned almost four decades, including thirteen years as the lone Member of Parliament from the anti-apartheid Progressive Party, she never flinched from challenging the pernicious system created by apartheid.

Her tenacious fight for human rights led to a great friendship with Nelson Mandela, who wrote in honor of Suzman's 90th birthday: "She is a person appreciated by all South Africans. Her courage, integrity and principled commitment to justice have marked her as one of the outstanding figures of history."

With July 18, 2018, marking the 100th anniversary of the birth of Nelson Mandela, this is an auspicious time to recall this Jewish leader and seek inspiration from her spirit and dedication.

Caring Community

Mount Zion Cares!

The Caring Community Program is here to help Mount Zion Temple members in their moments of need. We reach out to you with a helping hand when there is injury, illness, grief or other life stressors.

We provide meals, rides, visitors, and shiva support.

To get help contact us at caringcommunity@mzion.org or call 651-698-3881.

Who Inspires You? EIGHT RABBIS AND A CANTOR RESPOND

Congregational leaders inspire us daily through their teachings, acts of hesed, and social justice work. This summer, come learn who inspires and energizes them!

Sessions will be a combination of story-telling and text teaching.

All sessions are free and open to everyone. Come to one or come to all.

Come and be inspired!

Reconstructing Judaism and Ritual

Rabbi Sharon Stiefel Tues. June 19 | 7:00 PM Mayim Rabim

4401 York Ave S, Minneapolis

Marge Piercy

Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker Thurs. June 28 | 12:00 PM Henson and Efron

200 S. 6th St, Suite 4000, Minneapolis

Lamed Vavniks: The 36 Righteous of God

Rabbi Jeremy Fine
Thurs. July 5 | 2:00 PM
Dogwood Coffee Bar
825 Carleton St, St Paul

Daughters of Zelophchad

Hazzan Joanna Dulkin Tues. July 10 | 12:00 PM Adath Jeshurun

10500 Hillside Ln W, Minnetonka

Rabbi Aaron Panken & the Confirmation Class of 2018

Rabbi Jill Crimmings Wed. July 18 | 4:00 PM Central Park

101 16th Ave S, Hopkins

Those Who Are Their Art

Rabbi Sim Glaser Wed. July 25 | 3:30 PM Temple Israel

2324 Emerson Ave S, Minneapolis

David Moss

Rabbi Alexander Davis Sun. July 29 | 10:00 AM Beth El

5225 Barry St W, St Louis Park

Activists on Behalf of Civil Society in Israel

Rabbi Michael Latz Thurs. Aug 9 | 12:00 PM Shir Tikvah

1360 W Minnehaha Pkwy, Minneapolis

Rabbi Nachman of Breslov

Rabbi Tamar Grimm

Thurs. Aug 16 | 7:00 PM Lake Monster Brewing

550 Vandalia, St Paul



Hineni: Adult Jewish Learning and Contemplative Practices | Talmud Torah of St. Paul

N PARTNERSHIP WITH

Adath Jeshurun Congregation, Bet Shalom Congregation, Beth El Synagogue, Beth Jacob Congregation, Mayim Rabim Congregation, Mount Zion Temple, Shir Tikvah, Temple Israel, Temple of Aaron

For more info, contact sara.lynn@ttsp.org or 651-698-8807.



B'nei Mitzvah

Liliana Gerber June 9, 2018

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Liliana Gerber is the daughter of James Gerber and Lisa Hilbink, and the sister of Noah Gerber. Liliana's grandparents Merry Gerber and Ron Hilbink will be in attendance as she becomes Bat

Mitzvah. Liliana and her family will miss her grandparents (of blessed memory) Edward Gerber and Dottie Hilbink. Liliana attends Twin Cities Academy in Saint Paul where her favorite subjects are History, Science, and French. She plays clarinet in the school band. Some of her favorite activities are art, cooking, and hiking. Liliana was a volunteer madracha in the preschool classroom at Mount Zion this year and her mitzvah project was volunteering at Sholom Home, where she enjoyed helping Seniors with activities. Liliana plans to donate a portion of her gift money to Neighborhood House.

Rachel Swenson June 16, 2018

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Rachel Alannah Swenson is the daughter of Paul and Alice Swenson, and the granddaughter of Albert & Daisy Braverman, Curt & Karen Swenson, and Mary & Dick Conner. She is a seventh grader

at Saint Paul Academy, where her favorite subjects are English and art. She has also been an active member of the theater program at school. Outside of school she enjoys acting, reading, and spending time with her cats. Her Mitzvah project is Cookies for Kids Cancer, which raises money for children's cancer research.

Rebecca Richman June 23, 2018

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Rebecca (Becca) Richman is the daughter of Robert Richman and Kristin Beckmann and sister of Ethan Richman. Becca is a rising eighth grader

at Saint Paul Academy where she plays stand up bass and bass guitar in the orchestra, loves her classes and classmates and runs cross country and track. Girls on the Run, a program that builds fitness and confidence for young women, ignited Becca's love of running. As a result, Becca is contributing 18% of her gifts to GOTR to help other girls gain in self esteem and physical fitness. When not in school or with her friends, Becca can usually be found curled up with a good book or creating something delicious in the kitchen.

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Naveen Alter August 4, 2018

Naveen Keenan Alter is the son of Michael Alter and Anjali Goel. He is the grandson of David and Barbara Alter of Youngstown, Ohio and Kamlesh

Goel of Avon, Connecticut. He has 2 older sisters, Simran and Sundhya and I younger brother Varun. Naveen will be starting 9th grade at Saint Paul Central High School in the fall. He enjoys playing hockey in the winter for Edgecumbe Hockey Association and soccer in the spring and summer with Saint Paul Blackhawks. In his free time he enjoys listening to rap music. He completed his Mitzvah project by volunteering at Second Harvest Heartland and Feed my Starving Children. In honor of his Bar Mitzvah he will be donating a portion of his gift money.

Nate Dreyfus August 11, 2018

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Nathaniel (Nate) Dreyfus is the son of Todd and Jill Dreyfus and brother to Anna Dreyfus. He is the grandson of Gary and Mary Goranson, Susan Dreyfus, and Bruce Dreyfus. Nate is a seventh grader at Stillwater Middle School. He participates in the school band and tennis team. Nate

loves to play soccer, tennis, and golf. His favorite subjects are science and math. For his Mitzvah project he volunteered at Project Home, and will be donating part of his gift money to the Humane Society.

Sarah Parker August 18, 2018

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Sarah Parker is the daughter of Matt and Kim Parker of St. Paul, Minnesota. She has a younger sister Allison and a mini golden doodle named Daisy. Sarah attends Murray Middle School where

she is especially interested her world studies and history classes. This year Sarah advanced to State in the National History Day Competition with her website featuring a southern female spy for the Union. On Sundays, Sarah serves as Madracha for the Mount Zion second grade Sunday School class. She also volunteers her time at Lyngblomsten Care Center where likes to paint the residents' fingernails. In her free time, Sarah enjoys playing soccer, exploring Pinterest, and spending time with her many friends. Sarah will be donating a portion of her Bat Mitzvah gift money to the American Cancer Society and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Rebecca Elkin August 25, 2018

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Rebecca is the daughter of Sarah and Brad Elkin, and the sister of fifteen-year-old Moriah. She is the granddaughter of Dinah (z"l) and Max Elkin, and Greta and Gustav (z"l) Gutman. Rebecca is going into 9th grade at Simley High School in Inver Grove Heights, where she is most excited

to take a Creative Movement and Dance class. Rebecca enjoys playing alto saxophone in the school concert and marching bands, as well as piano at the St. Paul Conservatory of Music. She is also a member of the Simley gymnastics team. Someday, Rebecca would like to be a food chemist in the Twin Cities. For her mitzvah project, Rebecca volunteered with the Mount Zion Mitzvah Clowning program, where she dressed up as a clown to tell jokes, sing songs, and make balloon animals with the senior residents at Sholom Home. In honor of her Bat Mitzvah, she will be making a donation to Second Harvest Heartland, which distributes food locally to people in need.

Accessibility & Inclusion

Passing the Torch-Actually Passing the Fidget Wand!

By Allyson Perling

Saying goodbye has never been easy for me, and since I'm staying at Mount Zion I don't have to do that. Letting go of a role that has defined me for the past six years is equally difficult, except when a person who I admire and trust as much as Joan Ostrove will follow as the next chair of the Accessibility and Inclusion working group. Since the group's early beginnings, Joan has been there not only advocating for members of our deaf and hard-of-hearing community but as a solid force with her background and knowledge as a Professor of Psychology, with a focus in Disability Studies, at Macalester College. Joan's depth of knowledge and quiet leadership has been an anchor for the entire working group. We are lucky to have such capable congregants like Joan who are willing to take on key positions at Mount Zion. We also have Cantor Spilker who will continue skillfully in her role as the clergy liaison working in partnership with Joan.

In six years we have accomplished more than I think anyone expected https://mzion.org/connect/accessibility-and-inclusion/past-accomplishments/ including recognition as an URJ Exemplar Congregation for Disability Inclusion. I have been asked how did you do it? First and foremost it was not just me. A leader who has a vision is only as effective as the people who rally to embrace the vision and help with its implementation. Mount Zion is fortunate to have staff and lay leadership who believe in accessibility and inclusion and are passionate about learning how to make changes. Beyond that, we have members who care deeply for each other and work to ensure their inclusion within Mount Zion. That is how WE did it.

In one of my first messages as chair I pointed out that we are all in very different places in this journey of disability inclusion. I offered everyone the following perspective: wherever you are, keep taking one step at a time to move this work forward. So many of you took that message to heart. Our collective steps and successes have been for that very reason.

In February 2018 the Jewish Disability Inclusion world lost one of its giants, Rabbi Lynne Landsberg. When I posted that on Facebook a clergy friend of mine in Atlanta said, "Others will need to step forward to fill her shoes." This friend did not realize how many Rabbis, Cantors, lay leaders, and congregants it will take to do that! But for this work to continue we must! I prepared this list with the hope it might guide you in your continued journey. Please continue "Bringing Life to Others: 18 Things You Can Do" at mzion.org/connect/accessibility-and-inclusion/

Even the thought of asking Teresa Matzek to remove my name as chair of the working group on our publications and website causes my eyes to mist. I also have a full heart knowing that our collective work has made and will continue to make a positive impact in the lives of our congregants.

Celebration of the Accessibility and Inclusion Working Group and the Mental Health Task Force on April 30



Back row: Sue Lund, Sue Summit, Jasper Hardin, Anna Fox, Cantor Spilker, Allyson Perling, Shelley Robbins, Bill Robiner.
Front row: Anne Starr, Sheri Frisque, Sarah McVicar, Liza Henry, Joan Ostrove, Batya Spector.
Not pictured: Adam Bahr, Mavis Goldstein, Al Levin, Steve Levin

Social Action Update

Tzedek = Justice

Immigration Court Observation

Mount Zion became a URJ immigrant justice congregation last year joining with other congregations in Minnesota and across the country. As part of the work to support immigrants facing deportation in Minnesota, Mount Zion has partnered with The Advocates for Human Rights to observe immigration court proceedings and then report our observations to the The Advocates who are working with the University of Minnesota to study the results of those hearings. This is a powerful tool for providing support to immigrant detainees and for creating greater transparency and accountability in the court proceedings. This is Mount Zion's important contribution to welcoming the stranger.

Here are brief reflections from some of the Mount Zion members who have observed immigration court proceedings:

The first observation was chilling. The judge was new and unfamiliar herself, it seemed, with the process. Both the judge and the government attorney on that visit seemed eager to expedite the deportations. The judge worked hard to create the semblance of a "lengthy criminal record" for one detainee, even though most of the charges seemed to be about failures to show for hearings. I was able to witness the difference that a good lawyer makes, as well. One attorney was prepared, assertive, and did not allow the judge to intimidate her, and as a result was able to win more time for her client. One detainee, however, had been severely beaten in custody, and when the judge was informed of this, she simply responded that she had no interest in that. The detainees I observed that day had been in this country since they were young children—5 years old for one and 9 for another. Another had arrived as a teen.

During a second observation, in contrast, was made less odious by a compassionate judge and a low-key Government Attorney. The judge worked hard to explain options to the detainees and even took a recess to find out information about getting help for a Hmong detainee who could not fill out paperwork because he could not read or write in English and had no attorney. (We are deporting Hmong refugees!) The judge gave each detainee more time to file forms and even told one detainee that if his request for adjustment of status was denied, that the Judge would insist, at the subsequent hearing, that he apply for asylum.

The contrast in judges was a lesson in the difference between using the law as an instrument of justice and using the law to facilitate a cruel and unjust policy. I thought of Raphael Lemkin and his remark that law is something that must be built. It is a living instrument and it is our duty to craft it and reshape it so that it serves justice. In the meantime, more lawyers are needed to represent these detainees.

—Diana Dean

I was saddened by the treatment of the immigrants in the court. Dressed in prison-orange jumpsuits, hands and feet shackled, these people were so humiliated. None of those appearing for their hearings were considered "dangerous." None had criminal charges other than being undocumented. Only a few had legal counsel present. What we don't see in these deportations is the effect on the torn families. Several others attended to observe the hearings. When it came time to observe hearings for people who had committed actual crimes, the observers were kicked out of the hearing room. This first visit was a true eye-opener. I can't wait to go again!

—Brian Serle

One of the cases took a while so I observed five, and two were continuances. One involved a man who was from Ecuador and his wife and children were in the courtroom crying. I felt terrible and near tears myself. The man came in crying and spoke to his kids; they were young, maybe six and eight? This was a clear picture of how these policies are hurting families and benefiting no one. In this case, the man had been arrested for a crime but no charges were filed except for the immigration charge.

One of the defendants had been convicted of criminal sexual assault of a minor under age 13. That is the case that took a long time, because the judge had to review why that is a federal crime as well as a state crime. I didn't know what to think about that. In theory, I don't want child rapists on the streets. I also don't want our immigrants treated this way. So I am sitting with that challenge.

-Jessica Griffith

One very important observation is that the hearings go very fast and can be very complicated with many very legal terms. You realize how difficult it would be for the detainee to follow and that without legal counsel, there is no way the detainee is not at a serious disadvantage. You are also disturbed at the fact that the hearings often end with a continuance and a scheduled hearing many weeks away, knowing that the detainee will remain in custody, away from their family and not knowing how long this could take. In one particular story, a detainee was going to be deported because of DUl's that he had committed, and we watched him whisper to his young child in the courtroom, "I love you," many times and wondered whether he will ever get to see her again.

-Vic Rosenthal and Howard Goldman

These are just a few of the comments that we are reading and hearing. To observe a deportation hearing is to put a name and face to the ongoing stories of immigration. To observe also means to bear witness, to be present so that the people in the process know that there are outsiders looking in. If you are interested in learning more about court observation and training to become a court observer, email Vic Rosenthal at vic.rosenthal@gmail.com.

Neighborhood House Volunteers

Neighborhood House is always looking for volunteers! Find out more at neighb.org for specific opportunities. Contact Vanessa Edwards at vedwards@neighb.org or 651-789-2524.



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Summer Shabbat Eve Service Times

Every Friday night, June 8 - August 31 at 6 p.m.

Mount Zion Community Summer Picnic

Sunday, August 12, 10 am - 2 pm

at Indian Mounds Regional Park

Sponsored by Women of Mount Zion, Brotherhood, Prime Timers

See p. 7 for details.

Sing-Along with Dan Chouinard

Pianist-accordionist-host-writer-producer and-master-sing-along leader!

Saturday, July 28

7:00 p.m. Social Time & Nosh **7:30 p.m.** Sing-Along

See p. 4 for details.



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Help Plan Mount Zion's Year-Focus on Israel

Israel Kivvun 5779 - Open Planning Meeting

Beginning with a 30 minute Conversation:

"Gaza: What Can Israel/Palestinians/Egypt/US/Others Do Differently?"

Wednesday, July 11, 7-9 pm at Mount Zion

Members of our Israel Kivvun Task Force want your input about preliminary ideas for next year. We will begin with the Gaza discussion facilitated by Rabbi Spilker, then turn to planning. The Task Force will present their plans for discussion with opportunity for new ideas to emerge.



Task Force: Andrew Greenseid and Brian Serle, Co-Chairs; Tal Dror (Shlicha), Jonathan Eisenthal, Jessica Griffith, Steve Levin, Vicki Long, Tom Marver, Lisa Taran-Maddy, Shirly Tramer Lerman, Sadie Wall, Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker